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MYSURU Thursday 20th March 2025
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MCC budget presented

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (BLU&BS)- The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) 2025-26 Budget, presented this morning, highlighted several key developmental projects, including the transformation of renowned writer R.K. Narayan's house on Vivekananda Road, Yadavagiri, into a full-fledged tourist spot, the construction of a Sky Walk near Maharani's College on JLB Road and the expansion of the Kabini Water Purification Unit at Kembal from its current 60 Million Litres Per Day (MLD) capacity to 120 MLD.

Mysuru Division Regional Commissioner D.S. Ramesh, holding concurrent charge as the MCC Administrator, presented a budget of Rs. 1,228.72 crore at the Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Council Hall in the MCC main building.

With the MCC Council's tenure ending in September 2023 and elections to the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) still pending, the Government appointed the Regional Commissioner as the Administrator to oversee daily operations. Consequently, the budget meeting concluded without any deliberations or discussions.

(See MCC BUDGET on page 7)

Mysuru Division Regional Commissioner D.S. Ramesh, who is also MCC Administrator, reading the budget copy at Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Council Hall in city this morning as MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif looks on.

- R.K. Narayan's house in Yadavagiri to be a full-fledged tourist spot
- Sky Walk near Maharani's College on JLB Road for pedestrians

Power dearer by 36 paise from Apr. 1

Price hike in every sector is Congress Government's guarantee, says BJP

Bengaluru, Mar. 20 (VNS)- Residents of Karnataka, already grappling with rising bus and metro fares and soaring prices of daily essentials, were hit with another financial blow as the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) this morning announced a 36 paise per unit hike in electricity tariffs, effective from Apr. 1.

The hike is intended to cover pension and gratuity expenses for employees of electricity transmission companies and ESComs.

While the public has strongly opposed the increase, Medical Education Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil defended the move, claiming it would not impact the general public. He also dismissed concerns that the 'Gruha Jyothi' scheme had caused financial strain on the State.

(See POWER DEARER on page 6)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 20th March 2025

World Water Day Celebration on Mar. 22

Nature walks, bird watch, art, conversations on conservation

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (BCT)- Mysuru's Water Forum, in collaboration with the Mysore Storytellers Network, Colour Ashram, University of Mysore and Mysore Eco Prints, is hosting a special event to mark World Water Day on Saturday (Mar. 22).

The day-long celebration will feature a series of nature-centric activities and insightful discussions aimed at promoting water conservation.

The event will begin with a morning programme comprising nature walks and conservation talks at Kukkarahalli Lake Main Gate (near Railway Gate) from 6.45 am to 10 am.

Participants can look forward to a range of engaging activities, including a bird-watching walk to discover diverse birdlife around Kukkarahalli Lake, a tree walk to learn about the native flora and its ecological significance and a nature walk to experience lake's scenic beauty while gaining insights into its conservation needs.

Additionally, there will be a painting session where attendees can capture the essence of nature on canvas, followed by an interactive discussion on lake conservation, focusing on preserving Mysuru's water bodies.

The evening programme will cover water and sustainability and will be held at Colour Ashram from 5 pm to 7 pm. The session will feature a presentation on the relationship between fashion and water, highlighting the impact of the fashion industry on water resources.

Attendees can also witness a natural dye showcase, celebrating the beauty and sustainability of eco-friendly dyes. The evening will conclude with thought-provoking discussions on sustainable practices and cultural performances, offering a blend of awareness and artistic expression.

The event is supported by the Mysore School of Architecture (MSA) and Aranya Outreach Trust, whose continued efforts play a vital role in preserving Mysuru's water systems. For details contact U.N. Ravi Kumar on Mob: 90354-10154 [RSVP: *https://forms.gle/igZeM87N4Yu6dtvZ8]*

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

GEMS AMONG SACRED TEXTS: ***Sacred literature helps us realise that our goal should be*** *moksha.* ***Reading sacred texts keeps us away from getting distracted by worldly attractions and helps us remain focused. There are many gems among the hundreds of sacred texts that have come down to us, said T.A.K. Srinivasacharya in a discourse. Among the 18 major*** *Puranas, Vishnu Purana* ***is considered a gem and is called*** *Purana Ratna.* ***Among*** *mantras,* ***the*** *dhvaya mantra* ***is a gem. Among*** *stotras,* ***Alavandar's*** *Stotra Ratna* ***is a gem. While the*** *Itihasas* ***and*** *Puranas* ***have many lessons for us, there is nothing to equal the*** *Bhagavad Gita.* ***Among works that offer spiritual guidance to us, Manavala Mamunigal's*** *Upadesaratnamala* ***is a gem.*** *Srivachanabhushanam* ***is an ornament*** *(bhushanam)* ***for devotees.***

Of works that praise Goddess Sridevi, Parasara Bhattar's *Sri Guna Ratna Kosa* ***is a gem. It tells us of the gem like precious qualities of the Goddess. This work is an ornament for Her. There was a scholar named Madhavachar, who was won over to Visishtadvaita by Bhattar. The arguments that Bhattar used were based on*** *Thiruneduntandakam,* ***a work by Thirumangai Azhvar. A sacred work is begun with blessings to those who are going to read the work. Sometimes it begins with a submission of the composition at the feet of Acharyas. Manavala Mamunigal's*** *Upadesaratnamala* ***is an example of this. Or one can get straight to the subject. In his*** *Guna Ratna kosa,* ***Bhattar gets to the main theme in the very first*** *sloka.* ***He says that the Lord is tired because of creating, protecting and dissolving the world, and Goddess Mahalakshmi's look of approval soothes Him. Creating sentient beings and non-sentient things is child's play to him. Yet, Her glances of approval get rid of whatever tiredness He experiences because of His various tasks.*** *—In The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Italian man charged with manslaughter

Milan: An Italian man recently had to fight charges of manslaughter after his five-year-old son hit an 87-year-old pensioner while learning to ride a bicycle in a Milan park.

The woman (pensioner) was strolling through a Milan park with a 74-year-old friend when a boy crashed his bicycle into her causing her to fall and hit her head on the pavement. Although the pensioner claimed to be alright, the boy's father, who was teaching him to ride a bike and had seen the crash, insisted that he call an ambulance. Unfortunately, the woman's condition abruptly changed for the worse and, despite the efforts of the paramedics, she tragically lost her life.

Prosecutors later charged the father with manslaughter. Luckily, Judge Luigi Iannelli cleared the man of any criminal liability, arguing that the minor collision and its impacts could not have been predicted and that the man could not react quickly enough to stop it from happening.

Man lives as a nun for 22 years!

Santo Domingo: Frank Tavares was born a man in the Dominican Republic, but for 22 years of his life, he lived as Sister Margarita in two different convents, posing as one of the nuns there without anyone suspecting anything.

The story of "nun-man", as Frank came to be known following his shocking reveal, when he was only four years old. He and his family met with a car accident killing his parents. His grandparents were poor to care the child, so he was placed in the care of nuns at a Dominican convent. He wore girl's clothes, adopted the habits of the nuns there and became fully engaged in the daily activities of his new home. It wasn't until age seven that he realised he was a man, but he continued living as a girl, to avoid being cast out.

HEALTH CAPSULE

The symptoms of urinary tract infection are burning in urine, frequent urination, passing blood in urine, lower abdomen pain associated with fever with chills.

By Dr. Dinesh Kumar T. P. - Consultant – Urology and Andrology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

MRC Eye Hospital conducts free eye screening camp

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (KS) - Mysore Race Club (MRC) Eye Hospital (a service project of Mysore Race Club Charitable Trust) had organised a free eye screening camp at Nirashrithara Parihara Kendra, a rehabilitation centre for the homeless and destitute at Jyothinagar in city recently.

A total of 126 patients were screened during the camp, out of which 22 individuals received free spectacles and 45 patients have been scheduled for free cataract surgeries. Medical Officer at the Kendra Dr. Ramesh Jevoor; Mysore Race Club Charitable Trust Secretary M. Rahul Dev, Chairman G. Venkatesh, Trustee Dr. M.V. Venu, Managing Trustee Dr. T. Vijayakumar and others were present.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
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Today's level **108.47 feet**	Today's level **2,270.93 feet**	Today's level **2,834.50 feet**
Last year's level **87.31 feet**	Last year's level **2,267.07 feet**	Last year's level **2,829.59 feet**
Yesterday's level **108.85 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,271.02 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,834.54 feet**
Today's Inflow **80 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **91 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **84 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,187 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **500 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Snails have a ribbon-like tongue called a radula that contains thousands of tiny teeth.***
- ***Snails have a spiral shell loaded on their back which is a hard structure that protects their internal organs.***
- ***The snail's head is attached to the foot. There are two pairs of 15mm tentacles on the head. The eyes of the snail are placed at the end of the stalks.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Son: *Dad, what's that big building there?*
Dad: *I don't know.*
Son: *Then what's that big sign for?*
Dad: *How should I know.*
Son: *Dad, you're not angry with me for asking questions, are you?*
Dad: *No, son. It's the only way you'll ever learn anything!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 86.28
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 112.12
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.49
1 Euro	= Rs. 94.00

VOICE OF THE READER

Urgent clean-up needed at Vijayanagar 2nd Stage

Sir,

This is to highlight the growing garbage issue near 17th Main, 2nd Cross, Ganapathi Temple Road, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage.

The area has turned into a dumping ground, emitting foul smell, attracting stray animals and posing serious health risks. Despite repeated complaints, no action has been taken.

I urge the authorities to clear the garbage immediately and enforce proper waste management to prevent further neglect.

—Sharada T. Gowda
Vijayanagar 2nd Stage
10.3.2025

Book launch

Mysuru, Mar. 20- Jeerunde Prakashana, Kalasuruchi and Chaaru Cultural Foundation will launch the book 'Therigatha Kaanisida Hennu - Bauddha Dharmadalli Mahile' by Dr. Shylaja at Kalasuruchi in Kuvempunagar on Mar. 23 at 11 am.

Dr. G. Ramakrishna, a well-known thinker, writer and philosopher and Dr. Du. Saraswathi, a woman, Dalit and human rights activist, writer and director, will initiate the discussion.

Shylaja is a retired Associate Professor of English, Government First Grade College, Nanjangud. Shylaja and her spouse T.S. Venugopal have jointly authored many books on music as *Bhuvanada Bhagua MS, Vaadi Samvaadi, Sahaspandana* etc., and have translated the works of DD Kosambi into Kannada, according to Foundation President D. Sheela Kumari.

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TENDER NOTICE - OPERATION OF ENTRANCES ON RACE DAYS
Sealed Tenders are invited for the operation of entrances for racing patrons on Mysore Race Days and Inter Venue Betting Days. Tenders must be submitted by **5.00 pm on Saturday, 29th March 2025, to the Secretary & CEO at the above address.**
Tender forms and terms & conditions can be obtained from the Administrative Office on payment of a non-refundable fee.
The Club reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without providing reasons.
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Secretary & CEO,
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Date: 20th March 2025

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ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ
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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL...

A mother's tryst with... THRILLER

By S.N. Venkatnag Sobers

Women are the epitome of patience and resilience. As the Sanskrit verse goes, *'Nārīśakti Śaktiśālī Samājasya Nirmāṇaṁ Karoti',* which translates to *'A powerful woman builds a strong society'.* This perfectly embodies the woman we will introduce — a testament to strength and determination.

Having lost both her parents at a tender age, Namratha Raj defied the odds to carve a successful path for herself. Today, she stands tall as a Manager at an e-learning firm and has turned her childhood dream of becoming an author into reality.

A Post-Graduate in Human Resource Management from Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Namratha has been an avid reader since her early years. Her passion for literature eventually sparked her writing journey, leading to the creation of her widely acclaimed thriller, *'Revenge of the Dark Spirits.'*

The book, which has captivated readers, is a gripping tale that keeps one hooked from the first page to the last. Its meticulously woven plot blends mystery, thrill, romance, paranormal activities and the chilling consequences of black magic, making it a compelling read. Namratha is married to Hemanth Kumar, an agriculturist and together they are proud parents to their 14-year-old daughter, Reyna Hemanth.

Star of Mysore **caught up with author Namratha Raj to celebrate her inspiring journey as part of the month-long International Women's Day celebrations.** — Excerpts...

Star of Mysore (SOM): Storytelling is an art that doesn't come naturally to many. How did you develop this skill?

Namratha Raj: I have been an avid reader since childhood, gradually gravitating towards novels, particularly thrillers. Sydney Sheldon is my favourite author, and his works had a profound influence on me. Over time, I found myself instinctively building stories around random situations in my head.

Interestingly, I never shared these stories with anyone. That changed after my daughter was born. She refused to eat unless I kept her entertained with stories. So, I began narrating fantasy tales — the kind that children love. That's when I realised I had a knack for storytelling, which eventually evolved into writing.

SOM: What inspired you to become an author?

Namratha Raj: My journey as an author began after meeting Harini Srinivasan, a writer who later became my colleague. She encouraged me, pointing out that I had strong English communication skills and urged me to write.

At first, I was hesitant. I doubted my abilities, thinking I wasn't good enough to be a writer — especially when compared to authors from the US and UK, who are native English speakers. However, after reading Harini's books and works by other Indian authors, I felt inspired. Their success gave me the confidence to give it a shot — and that's how my writing journey began.

SOM: This being your first attempt, take us through your process while writing the book.

Namratha Raj: I'm not a disciplined writer who sticks to a daily word count of 1,000–2,000 words. My process is more spontaneous — I write when the creative juices flow.

There were days when I would be on a roll, writing relentlessly and crossing 5,000 to 10,000 words in one stretch. On other days, I wouldn't write at all because I struggled to figure out how to navigate the plot. It was a challenge, especially as I lacked the experience of seasoned writers who can seamlessly translate their thoughts into words.

SOM: Why did you choose thriller as the genre for your first book?

Namratha Raj: I've always been drawn to thrillers and suspense. I've read countless books in the genre, so it felt natural for me to write one. The idea for my book actually struck me during a visit to a resort surrounded by a forest. While enjoying the peaceful and serene environment, I suddenly wondered — what if a tiger appeared out of the jungle? With no clear escape route, where would we run for shelter?

Namratha Raj with her husband Hemanth Kumar and daughter Reyna Hemanth.

That thought sparked my creative process. I expanded the scenario by adding a kidnapping incident and infusing it with supernatural elements to heighten the intrigue. Fortunately, all the pieces fell into place and I was able to complete the book.

SOM: The story has elements of romance, drama and fear, making it a real page-turner. Tell us more about it.

Namratha Raj: It was important for me that my book resonated with readers from all walks of life. I wasn't targeting a specific audience — I wanted it to appeal to everyone. To achieve that, I blended thrill, horror, romance and drama into the plot. With multiple characters, I took care to flesh out their personalities, ensuring readers could connect with them. Building relatable and realistic characters was key to making the story immersive and impactful.

SOM: Finding a publisher is no easy task. How difficult or easy was it for you?

Namratha Raj: Honestly, finding a publisher was the toughest part. Writing the book was far easier.

While self-publishing platforms are widely available today, I wanted the validation of a traditional publisher. I reached out to multiple publishers, but the process was frustratingly slow. Many of them showed initial interest after reading the synopsis and requested the full manuscript. However, once I sent it, they vanished without responding to follow-ups or e-mails.

Luckily, the publisher who eventually picked up my book was quick to respond. From there, the process moved swiftly. It took around six months for the book to hit the shelves, as it had to go through editing, proofreading and cover design finalisation.

SOM: Now that the book is out, are you planning to approach anyone to adapt it into a movie or series?

Namratha Raj: I haven't thought about it yet, mainly because I have no contacts in the industry. However, if someone approaches me, I would be interested in sharing the story with them. Seeing it come alive on screen would be thrilling.

SOM: What are your plans for your next project?

Namratha Raj: Yes, I am already planning my next book. This time, I'm considering an anthology — a collection of short stories. I believe it will connect with a wider audience, especially since it will explore diverse human emotions and experiences. I haven't started writing yet, as I need to be in a particular creative headspace to dive into it. But once the spark hits, I'll get going.

SOM: As this is the month where womanhood is celebrated, what message would you like to share with all the women out there?

Namratha Raj: My message to all women is simple — prioritise yourself. Take care of your health and fitness. As women, we tend to put family first and often neglect our own well-being. I say this from personal experience. But it's essential to remember that only when we are healthy and strong can we give our best to those we love.

SSLC exam at 133 centres in district from tomorrow

Teachers are seen marking the roll number of students at Maharani's Junior College on Narayana Shastri Road in city this morning.

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (RK&DM)- With the SSLC Examination (2024-25) of Karnataka State Board set to commence from tomorrow (Mar. 21), all preparations are underway in the city and district for ensuring smooth conduct of the exam.

As many as 39,103 students from the district, including 465 private and 734 repeater students will be appearing for the exam, which concludes on Apr. 4.

DDPI S.T. Javaregowda said that the exam will be held at a total of 133 centres across the district, including 35 in Mysuru city alone. Pointing out that CCTV cameras have been installed at all exam halls as well as in the strong room where the question papers are kept, for preventing any malpractices or irregularities, he said that a Master Room has been set up at the Deputy Commissioner's office for monitoring the conduct of the exam.

"The exam will commence with first language paper tomorrow and conclude with third language paper on Apr. 4. The exam will be held from 10 am to 1.15 pm on all the exam days," he said adding out of the 39,103 students appearing for the exam, 19,114 are girls.

Pointing out that the routes for delivering question papers to the exam papers at the taluk levels have been specified, he said that the question papers will be transported only in designated vehicles to the exam centres under tight Police security.

"As many as 633 staff have been deputed for the conduct of exams in the district. Every exam centre will have a Chief Superintendent and enough staff have been assigned to all the centres. This apart, there will be tight Police security around all the exam centres and Health personnel will be deployed around the centres for meeting any medical emergencies. The officials have been directed to ensure civic amenities such as drinking water, toilets etc., at all the centres. Each Education Block will have a flying squad for preventing any exam malpractices", he said adding that the KSRTC will provide free bus service to students appearing for the exam. He further said that the respective Head Masters and the SDMC members have been instructed to make vehicle arrangements for students in areas where there are no bus facility.

Ahead of the exam, teachers were seen marking the roll number of students today at exam centres.

DDPI S.T. Javaregowda visited some of the exam centres in the city and district for checking the arrangements.

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Bengaluru engineer arrested for leaking defence secrets to Pak

Bengaluru, Mar. 20 (Agencies)- In a joint operation led by Central, State and Defence Intelligence Agencies, a senior engineer at Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bengaluru, was arrested this morning for allegedly leaking sensitive defence-related information to Pakistan in exchange for Bitcoin payments.

The arrested individual has been identified as 36-year-old Deepraj Chandra, who worked in the Product Development and Innovation Centre Division at BEL. A resident of Mathikere in Bengaluru, Chandra hails from Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

BEL, a public sector aerospace and defence electronics company headquartered in Bengaluru, manufactures advanced electronic products for ground and aerospace applications. It operates under the Ministry of Defence and is one of 16 PSUs granted Navratna status by the Government of India.

Chandra is accused of leaking critical defence-related information, including details on production systems, office layouts and data concerning senior officials, to Pakistani operatives.

Investigating agencies suspect that Chandra used encrypted communication channels, such as e-mail, WhatsApp and Telegram, to establish contact with his handlers in Pakistan.

In a bid to evade detection, he reportedly created a secret e-mail account, drafted classified information and shared the login credentials instead of sending e-mails directly. This allowed the Pakistani operatives to access the sensitive data from the draft folder.

Authorities believe Chandra may have been leaking defence-related information over an extended period, raising serious concerns over a potential national security breach.

Intelligence agencies are currently analysing digital transactions and communication logs to assess the full extent of the damage.

The accused BEL senior engineer is now being interrogated, with officials working to piece together the timeline of the events.

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Echo of Malavalli food poisoning case

Meghalaya officials camp in Mandya; seek thorough probe

Dr. Kumara, Mandya Dy. Commissioner and Cyril V. Diengdoh, Commissioner and Secretary of General Administration Department, Meghalaya, enquiring the health of students admitted at Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital.

Mandya, Mar. 20 (MR&BCT)- Following the tragic incident at Gokul Educational Institution in T. Kagepura, Malavalli Taluk, where two children from Meghalaya — Khrehlang Khongtani (13) and Nyamo Banti (13) — died and over 30 others fell ill after consuming leftover Holi celebration food, officials from the Meghalaya Government have been camping in Mandya district.

As directed by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma, Cyril V. Diengdoh, Commissioner and Secretary of the General Administration Department, along with Education Department officials Peter Sun and Rudy Kriel, visited Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS) Hospital, Malavalli Hospital and Gokul Educational Institution to gather information.

Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara and SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi accompanied them during the visits. After collecting the necessary details, Cyril Diengdoh returned to Meghalaya yesterday, while Peter Sun and Rudy Kriel remained in Mandya.

Cyril Diengdoh stated, "The students are recovering. Four of them are undergoing treatment in the ICU. The Mandya District Administration and doctors are ensuring that the students receive the necessary treatment."

He added, "As directed by the Meghalaya CM, we have visited Mandya and gathered all information about the ailing students. The Meghalaya Government will provide compensation to the families of the deceased students. It is unfortunate that two children, who had come here for education, have lost their lives."

No proper licencing

Meghalaya officials questioned the DC and SP regarding Gokul Educational Institution's authorisation to educate students from other States and inquired about the institution's operational history. It was revealed that Gokul Educational Institution lacks proper licencing. Authorities are investigating the source of the Holi feast, where the food was prepared, and whether Holi colours were mixed into the food or if expired ingredients were used — potential factors contributing to the tragedy. Mandya officials assured the Meghalaya delegation that a thorough investigation is underway.

It was also disclosed that the Meghalaya students were admitted to the institution during the 2022-23 academic year, with 13 students in one batch and 11 in the second batch.

Additionally, Cyril Diengdoh requested DC Dr. Kumara to ensure proper verification, such as Aadhaar Card checks, for parents arriving from Meghalaya to collect their children. He also urged the administration to make arrangements for the children's safe return home and ensure they are allowed to sit for their examinations.

Students can take up exams after discharge from hospital: DC

Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara flanked by ZP CEO K.R. Nandini and SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi at the meeting.

Mandya, Mar. 20 (MR&BCT)- Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara announced yesterday that arrangements will be made for 22 Meghalaya students and 14 local students of Gokul Educational Institution, Malavalli, who are recovering from food poisoning, to take their exams after being discharged from the hospital.

Presiding over a meeting on the students' health, Dr. Kumara stated that the 22 Meghalaya students, studying in Classes 1 to 9, will be handed over to the District Child Protection Unit upon recovery. They will be accommodated at a child care home and provided with meals recommended by medical experts.

The Education Department has been instructed to facilitate the examination process for both the Meghalaya and local students. For SSLC students, arrangements will be made to allow them to take Exam-1 with medical clearance and parental consent. If that is not feasible, they will be allowed to appear for Exam-2.

Once their treatment is complete, the Meghalaya students will be transferred to the District Child Protection Unit. Officials appointed by the Meghalaya Government, along with the children's parents, can take custody of them by submitting identity proof, such as Aadhaar cards and providing a written request.

Ensuring accountability

Additionally, Dr. Kumara directed the Education Department to investigate and secure the documents submitted during the Meghalaya students' admission to Gokul Educational Institution to ensure accountability.

He warned of strict action against Government schools found serving outside food to students. Nodal Officers will be appointed to oversee residential schools managed by the Departments of Social Welfare, Backward Classes and Minorities.

ZP CEO K.R. Nandini cautioned that disciplinary action will be taken against schools encouraging outsiders to bring food during midday meals.

She sought details regarding the officers and staff responsible for approving and renewing Gokul Institution's licence, emphasising the need for strict compliance with guidelines during both the issuance and renewal of licences for private educational institutions.

District Child Protection Officer Rashmi stated that staff have been appointed to monitor the health of the hospitalised children. Due to space constraints at Bala Mandira, arrangements have been made to accommodate the boys in an adjacent building.

The meeting was attended by SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi, Meghalaya Education Department officials Peter Sun and Rudy Kriel, Child Welfare Committee Chairperson Sumitra and Deputy Director of the Women and Child Development Department, Rajamurthy, along with other authorities.

Outside food banned at Child Care Institutions in Mysuru

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (RK&BCT)- Mysuru District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) N.T. Yogesh has issued a strict directive prohibiting external food in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) operating under the Care and Protection Act.

This measure follows the tragic incident at a school hostel in Malavalli, where two children died and 30 others fell ill after consuming food during Holi celebrations.

In response, the Mysuru District Administration has taken swift precautionary steps. DCPO Yogesh issued a formal written order, instructing all 28 private (NGOs) and 3 Government-run CCIs in the district not to serve food prepared outside.

The order mandates strict cleanliness in kitchens and careful supervision during meal preparation. It also specifies that only high-quality food and clean water must be provided to children in hostels.

Yogesh warned that failure to comply will lead to disciplinary action under the law. To ensure adherence, hostels will be inspected in coordination with Child Welfare Committee (CWC) officials.

Currently, Mysuru district has 31 CCIs housing 320 children. With examinations now concluded, some children have returned home to their parents, Yogesh added.

Meghalaya Child Rights Commission seeks action

Shillong, Mar. 20 (UNI)- The Meghalaya State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (MSCPCR) Chairperson Agatha Sangma on Wednesday said it is working closely with its Karnataka counterpart to ensure smooth recuperation of students undergoing treatment due to food poisoning.

"We are saddened to learn of the demise of two students from our State hailing from Lyndem village under Pynusla subdivision and Sohparu village under Nongstoin. Any loss of life is regrettable particularly when it involves children from the State in such tragic incidents which should not have occurred in the first place," Sangma said.

The students at the school were reportedly served leftover food after Holi which caused food poisoning. Reportedly, the school didn't have a permit to run the residential facility. "We requested a detailed report from the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights to assess and address the gaps that lead to such violations," she said.

Power dearer

(Continued from page 1)

It may be recalled that KERC had sought public opinion before making its decision. However, despite strong objections from consumers and businesses, KERC approved the hike. ESComs had also pushed for a three-year, one-time tariff revision to ensure pricing stability.

The increase is expected to hit SMEs hard, as many businesses rely heavily on electricity. Higher tariffs will raise production costs, potentially leading to inflated prices for goods and services.

BJP slams Congress Government

The tariff hike has sparked criticism from Opposition parties and consumer rights groups, who argue that instead of providing relief, the Government is further burdening citizens.

BJP State President B.Y. Vijayendra lashed out at the Congress Government, accusing it of guaranteeing price hikes in every sector instead of offering relief as promised during elections. He argued that while the Government claims to provide free electricity, it offsets the benefit by raising tariffs.

He labelled Congress administration as ineffective and vowed that the BJP would raise the issue in the Legislative Assembly and stage protests against the Government's policies.

Girl child sold in Nanjangud for Rs. 14,000; No case yet

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (RK&KS)- A couple from Nanjangud, unable to care for their three daughters, allegedly sold their youngest child to a couple in Gundlupet for Rs. 14,000.

Shockingly, despite the incident coming to light, the Police have neither registered a case nor arrested the culprits.

The couple, accused of selling their daughter, has been identified as Anil Kumar and Sowmya, residents of Neelakantanagar in Nanjangud. Overwhelmed by financial struggles, they reportedly resorted to selling their youngest child.

Anganwadi activist Lavanya, upon learning about the sale, alerted the Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) and local leader Ananth. When Ananth contacted the buyer, they confirmed purchasing the child for Rs. 14,000. The buyer stated they were willing to return the child only if the money was refunded.

Ananth, however, insisted that the child be handed over first and promised to discuss the money later. The buyer complied and brought the child back. It was only then that the Police intervened and took custody of the girl.

The CDPO soon arrived at the scene and took the child into their care. Despite this, the Police still refrained from filing a case against those involved.

Deputy Director of the Women and Child Development Department, Basavaraju, confirmed that the Department has now taken custody of all three daughters. He stated that an FIR will be registered against both the sellers and the buyers, and a departmental inquiry will be initiated.

MCC budget presented

(Continued from page 1)

Reading out the budget, Ramesh, accompanied by MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif and other officials, announced that MCC anticipates generating Rs. 392.29 crore from its own resources, along with Rs. 525.91 crore in Government grants, bringing the total projected revenue to Rs. 918.20 crore.

The budget expects to raise Rs. 252.60 crore from property tax alone, Rs. 98.51 crore from water charges and Rs. 15.73 crore from other revenue streams, including land cess and road-cutting charges. Additionally, trade licences are projected to bring in Rs. 6 crore, while ground and monthly rents from commercial complexes, markets and Garuda Mall are expected to generate Rs. 3.09 crore.

The budget's opening balance as of Mar. 1, 2025, stands at Rs. 310.51 crore. With deposits totalling Rs. 918.20 crore, the overall revenue reaches Rs. 1,228.72 crore. The proposed payments amount to Rs. 1,219.01 crore, leaving a remaining balance of Rs. 9.70 crore.

RKN's house as tourist spot

The budget outlines several ambitious projects, including development of renowned English author R.K. Narayan's (RKN) house in Yadavagiri into a tourist attraction. The existing museum in RKN's house will be enhanced using CSR funds to make it more appealing to visitors.

Sky Walk

Under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, a Sky Walk will be built near Maharani's Women's College for Science, Arts and Commerce on JLB Road. This initiative follows the Chief Minister's assurance during a visit to the college, aiming to ease pedestrian movement, especially for students.

While a cellar parking facility already exists at the Rangacharlu Memorial Town Hall premises, a full-fledged vehicle parking facility will be developed on D. Devaraj Urs Road to address the growing parking demands.

A long-pending plan for a public swimming pool will finally take shape at the Freedom Fighters Memorial Park near Subbarayana Kere. Though the project was announced in the previous year's budget, it was stalled due to lack of suitable land. With the availability of space confirmed, the pool will now be constructed.

Infrastructure upgrades

Bitumen and concrete roads will be laid across city, with provisions for utility corridors to streamline maintenance of fibre cables, underground drainage (UGD) lines and electric cables.

The Kabini Water Purification Unit at Kembal has been upgraded from 60 MLD to 120 MLD capacity. The facility will be formally dedicated this year.

Under Centre's Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Scheme, 44 bulk water flow meters will be installed to prevent seepage in drinking water network.

Waste management, citizen service initiatives

With 40 percent of the legacy solid waste at the Sewage Farm in Vidyaranyapuram already cleared, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) will be entrusted with the task of removing the remaining waste and implementing the Waste-to-Energy project.

Material recovery facilities (MRF) will be constructed at Solid Waste Management Units in Vidyaranyapuram and Rayanakere, with funds from the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, State Government and MCC grants.

The solid waste generated in the city will be processed using modern techniques, including Windrow Turner machines, funded by the UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO). Rs. 11.66 crore will be spent on purchasing machinery to scientifically process construction debris.

The MCC will purchase 45 desilting machines and 25 jetting machines to enhance drainage maintenance.

A citywide drive will be launched to issue e-Khatas within seven days of submitting all required documents. B-Khatas will be issued for properties with registered documents dated before May 10, 2025. To enhance efficiency, revenue services will be decentralised at MCC Zonal Offices.

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16586	Murudeshwar	KSR Bengaluru	3.45 am	6.15 am	Daily
16217	Mysuru	Shirdi	5.00 am	7.30 am	Monday
12610	Mysuru	Chennai	5.15 am	7.55 am	Daily
17326	Mysuru	Belagavi	5.40 am	8.40 am	Daily
20663	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	6.00 am	7.45 am	Daily Except Thur Vande Bharat
66554	Mysuru	Bengaluru	6.10 am	9.15 am	Daily
16215	Mysuru	Bengaluru	6.45 am	9.35 am	Daily
22687	Mysuru	Varanasi	7.30 am	9.55 am	Tue & Thu
20623	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	8.20 am	10.50 am	Daily
56281	Chamarajanagara	KSR Bengaluru	9.05 am	1.05 pm	Daily Passenger
19668	Mysuru	Udaipur	10.05 am	12.15 pm	Thu [Humsafar Exp]
12975	Mysuru	Jaipur	10.30 am	12.45 pm	Thu & Sat
12578	Mysuru	Darbhanga	10.30 am	1.35 pm	Friday
12613	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	11.30 am	2.00 pm	Daily
16315	Mysuru	Kochuveli	12.45 pm	4.25 pm	Daily
20608	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	1.05 pm	2.45 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
17307	Mysuru	Bagalkot	1.25 pm	4.30 pm	Daily
66552	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	1.45 pm	5.00 pm	Daily Passenger
12008	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	2.15 pm	4.10 pm	Daily Except Thur
20659	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	2.50 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
12786	Mysuru	Kacheguda	3.15 pm	5.45 pm	Daily
16535	Mysuru	Pandharpur	3.45 pm	6.25 pm	Daily
16232	Mysuru	Mayiladuturai	4.15 pm	6.50 pm	Daily
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	5.10 pm	8.10 pm	Daily
16236	Mysuru	Tuticorin	6.20 pm	9.00 pm	Daily
06237	Mysuru	Manamadurai	6.35 pm	9.15 pm	Mon
16592	Mysuru	Hubballi	6.50 pm	9.40 pm	Daily
16210	Mysuru	Ajmer	7.10 pm	10.10 pm	Tue & Thu
16227	Mysuru	Talguppa	7.30 pm	10.30 pm	Daily
06526	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	7.50 pm	11.05 pm	Daily
22681	Mysuru	Chennai	8.15 pm	10.50 pm	Wednesday
16022	Mysuru	Chennai	9.00 pm	11.45 pm	Daily
06269	Mysuru	SMVT Baiyyappanahalli	9.50 pm	12.40 am	Daily
66580	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	10.25 pm	1.15 am	Daily
22135	Mysuru	Renigunta	11.10 pm	1.30 am	Friday
22818	Mysuru	Howrah	11.45 pm	1.55 am	Sunday

DEPARTING FROM KSR BENGALURU AND ARRIVING MYSURU

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16218	Shirdi	Mysuru	12.55 am	3.35 am	Thursday
22817	Howrah	Mysuru	1.55 am	3.35 am	Sunday
66579	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	2.05 am	5.30 am	Daily Passenger
16021	Chennai	Mysuru	4.00 am	6.45 am	Daily
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	4.30 am	7.10 am	Daily
16228	Talguppa	Mysuru	5.05 am	8.20 am	Daily
22682	Chennai	Mysuru	5.20 am	7.45 am	Friday
16231	Mayiladuturai	Mysuru	5.40 am	8.35 am	Daily
16591	Hubballi	Mysuru	6.00 am	8.55 am	Daily
16235	Tuticorin	Mysuru	6.15 am	9.30 am	Daily
12785	Kacheguda	Mysuru	6.30 am	10.20 am	Daily
16536	Solapur	Mysuru	7.50 am	10.45 am	Daily
17308	Bagalkot	Mysuru	8.10 am	12.00 pm	Daily
16316	Kochuveli	Mysuru	8.30 am	11.15 am	Daily
66551	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	9.15 am	1.30 pm	Daily Passenger
20607	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.05 am	12.20 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
12007	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.35 am	1.00 pm	Daily Except Thur
20660	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	11.30 am	2.00 pm	Daily
12976	Jaipur	Mysuru	1.00 pm	4.00 pm	Wed & Fri
19667	Udaipur	Mysuru	1.25 pm	4.40 pm	Wed [Humsafar Exp]
20624	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	1.50 pm	4.20 pm	Daily
12614	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	3.15 pm	5.35 pm	Daily
06525	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	4.45 pm	7.40 pm	Daily Passenger
56282	KSR Bengaluru	Chamarajanagar	3.35 pm	6.35 pm	Daily Passenger
12577	Darbhanga	Mysuru	5.00 pm	8.00 pm	Thursday
17325	Belagavi	Mysuru	5.35 pm	8.45 pm	Daily
16216	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	6.15 pm	9.05 pm	Daily
22688	Varanasi	Mysuru	6.30 pm	10.00 pm	Mon & Sat
66553	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	7.00 pm	10.15 pm	Daily
12609	Chennai	Mysuru	8.00 pm	10.50 pm	Daily
16585	KSR Bengaluru	Mangaluru	8.25 pm	11.20 pm	Daily Except Friday
20664	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	9.30 pm	11.30 pm	Daily Except Thur Vande Bharat
22136	Renigunta	Mysuru	11.10 pm	1.35 am	Saturday
16209	Ajmer	Mysuru	11.50 pm	2.25 am	Tue & Sun

TOWARDS HASSAN, ARSIKERE, SHIVAMOGGA, DAVANGERE, HAVERI, HUBBALLI, DADAR, NEW DELHI & BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
16206	Mysuru	Talguppa	6.00 am	1.25 pm	Daily
11036	Mysuru	Dadar	6.15 am	5.45 am (next day)	Sunday (Mysuru)
56266 (Exp)	Mysuru	Arsikere	6.30 am	10.25 am	Daily
16208	Mysuru	Yesvantpur	7.15 am	10.10 am (Hassan)	Daily
16225	Mysuru	Shivamogga	10.15 am	4.40 pm	Daily
16222	Mysuru	Talguppa	2.00 pm	11.00 pm	Daily
56268	Mysuru	Arsikere	5.45 pm	10.00 pm	Daily
12781	Mysuru	Hazrat Nizamuddin	7.30 pm (Fri)	6.45 pm (Sun)	Friday
17301	Mysuru	Belagavi	9.30 pm	9.00 am	Daily
16585	Mysuru	Murdeshwar	11.40 pm	12.55 am	Daily
17302	Belagavi	Mysuru	6.00 pm	5.55 am	Daily
06213	Arsikere	Mysuru	5.00 pm	9.25 am	Daily
16226	Shivamogga	Mysuru	11.15 am	5.05 pm	Daily
16207 (Exp)	Yesvantpur	Mysuru	4.45 pm (Hassan)	8.10 pm	Daily
56265	Arsikere	Mysuru	5.30 pm	9.15 pm	Daily
11035	Dadar	Mysuru	9.30 pm	10.00 pm (next day)	Thursday (Dadar)
16221	Talguppa	Mysuru	6.15 am	3.35 pm	Daily
16205	Talguppa	Mysuru	2.50 pm	10.30 pm	Daily
12782	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Mysuru	5.10 am (Mon)	2.20 am (Wed)	Monday
16586	Murdeshwar	Mysuru	2.10 pm	3.30 am	Daily

TOWARDS MYSURU TO CHAMARAJANAGAR AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
56202	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	5.00 am	6.35 am	Daily Passenger
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	7.30 am (Mys)	9.20 am	Daily
56210	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	8.20 am	10.10 am	Daily Passenger
56206	Mysuru	Nanjangud	9.15 am	10.00 am	Daily
56204	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	11.45 am	1.30 pm	Daily
56208	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	3.45 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
56282	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	6.40 pm	8.40 pm	Daily
56281	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	7.15 pm	9.00 pm	Daily
56205	Nanjangud	Mysuru	10.25 pm	11.15 pm	Daily
56207	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	10.40 pm	12.30 pm	Daily Passenger
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	3.30 pm	5.00 pm	Daily
56203	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	5.30 pm	7.20 pm	Daily
56209	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	8.50 pm	10.35 pm	Daily
56201	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	9.45 pm	11.40 pm	DailyPassenger

Bharatanatyam by Vidu. Suma Rajesh at Ganabharathi tomorrow

Mysuru, Mar. 20- Ganabharathi, Mysuru, has organised a Bharatanatyam programme by Vidu. Suma Rajesh and students from Bengaluru — Vidu. Dr. Aisiri Deepak, Vidu. Dr. Deepika Darshan, Vidu. Anwitha Ashok, Vidu. Vibha Dathatri and Ananya Kulkarni — at Veene Seshanna Bhavana, Adichunchanagiri Road, Kuvempunagar, on Mar. 21 at 6.30 pm.

Vidu. Suma Rajesh

Vidu. Suma Rajesh started training in Bharatanatyam at the age of eight under the tutelage of Guru Kannan Maarar and continued the learning process under Guru Ambale Rajeshwari of Hassan and Vidushi Dr. Kripa Phadke of Mysuru.

Suma received training in the finer nuances of the dance form under noted danseuse *Karnataka Kalashree* Guru B. Bhanumati. Now, she is undergoing training under Guru *Nrithya Nipune* Sheela Chandrasekhar; in natuvanga from noted Mridanga Vidwan N. Narayanaswamy and Sheela Chandrasekhar.

Suma has completed 'Alankar' grade exams conducted by Gandharva Maha Vidyalaya and was selected as Visesh Kala Yogita during Alankar exam and invited to perform in All India Dance Competition (Pratibhavan Pratiyogita) organised by Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, Navi Mumbai, in Oct 2019, in which she secured second place. She is also a Graded Artiste of the Doordarshan.

Suma is a accredited examiner and valuator of the KSEE Board Bharatanatyam and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

Two-day Prabhigyan Fest from tomorrow

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (GA&VNS)-MMK&SDM Mahila Mahavidyalaya and Centre for PG Studies will be organising 'Prabhigyan,' a two-day inter-collegiate Science, Commerce, Management and Cultural Fest-2025 from tomorrow (Mar. 21) at the college campus in Krishnamurthypuram.

The fest will be inaugurated by journalist Rashmi Koti at 9.30 am.

Writer Kusuma Ayarahalli will be special guest. MMK&SDM Girls PU College Principal Prof. Nayanakumari, Student Welfare Officer Jyothilakshmi G. Kava and Literary Co-ordinator Ujwala Shetty will be guests of honour. Principal N. Bharathi will preside.

Addressing a press meet in city yesterday, College Vice-Principal K.S. Sukrutha said that in case the participants are unable to find the mode of transportation owing to the bandh called by Kannada organisations, the events of Mar. 22 will be postponed. Actor G. Rajath Krishnan will be the chief guest at the valedictory on Mar. 22 at 4 pm. Actor-model Abhishek Das will be special guest.

Kidney Day at Sigma Hospital

Nephrologist Dr. Aniketh Prabhakar administering the oath as Dr. Rajeshwari Madappa, S. Gnanashankar, Dr. K.M. Madappa, Dr. Somanna and others look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (KS)- Sigma Hospital celebrated World Kidney Day at its premises in city recently. Dr. Aniketh Prabhakar, Consultant Nephrologist, spoke about kidney health.

Hospital staff and patients took oath: Not to take painkiller tablets and antibiotics without doctor's advice; To get the kidneys checked every year after 40 years of age; Promote nutritious and clean eating habits and encourage others to do the same; Avoid smoking, alcohol and junk foods.

Dr. K.M. Madappa, Chief Urologist and Transplant Surgeon, spoke about the hospital's endeavour to prevent kidney diseases and announced that **a free annual kidney check-up camp will be conducted on Apr. 6 from 8 am to 2 pm**. Hospital's Managing Director S. Gnanashankar, Paediatrician and Hospital Director Dr. Rajeshwari Madappa, Urologist Dr. Somanna, doctors and staff were present.

NEWS BRIEFS

World Sparrow Day today

Prakrutim Rakshamah, city-based people's movement, has organised the observation of World Sparrow Day at 7 pm today (Mar. 20) at Royal Mart premises on Male Mahadeshwara Road in Nazarbad. Ornithologist Praveen, film actor Pavan Tej, Royal Mart Chief Manager Nawaz and former Corporator M.K. Shankar will be the guests. While a short film on the importance of conserving the sparrows will be screened, the dignitaries will speak on the subject and how every aspect of nature is crucial for our survival, according to a press release from Prakrutim Rakshamah Convenor V. Sriprasad [Mob: 93410-06004]

Musical evening tomorrow

'Balondu Bhavageethe,' a film songs musical evening has been organised by Sound N Rythm at Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha on JLB Road in city tomorrow (Mar. 21) at 6 pm. The event will feature 35 Kannada songs and a few Hindi and Tamil songs. A total of 14 singers will present songs along with Karaoke. Entry is free, according to a press release from A.S. Ravishankar of Sound N Rythm.

Book release

Mysore Literary Association has organised a programme at Kalpa Kshetra in Vijayanagar 4th Stage in city on Mar. 23 at 11 am for the release of the book 'Mayaloka' (authored by K.P. Poornachandra Tejaswi), translated to English by Krishna Murthy Chandar. Former Kuvempu University VC Prof. Chidananda Gowda will release the book. Tejaswi's sister Tarini Chidananda will receive the first copy of the book. For further details, contact Mob: 94498-19536, according to a press release.

Students Fest on Apr. 1, 2

Students Action Committee (Vidyarthi Kriya Samithi) has organised Students Fest at Kalamandira in city on Apr. 1 and 2. The Fest, to be inaugurated at 10.30 am, will feature various cultural competitions. Degree students from across the State can take part in the competitions with permission letter from their College Principal. Participants will be provided food and accommodation. Also, they will be facilitated to watch Kannada Movie 'Bhageeratha' starring actor Jayaprakash (JP), who is also the Committee Hon. President, at Prabha Talkies on Mar. 28 and 29. For details, contact Mob: 86601-41651, according to a press release from the Committee.

87 percent revenue cases solved in Mysuru Courts

14,109 cases disposed of among 16,135 cases; CM's home district achieves progress exceeding the State target; cases heard at DC's Court, AC's Court and Tahsildar's Court

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (SPN&BS)- The district being the native of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has made a significant stride in the disposal of revenue related cases in the State, solving 14,109 cases against the total 16,135 cases received at the Courts of Deputy Commissioner (DC), also the District Magistrate, Assistant Commissioner (AC) and the Tahsildar, in the last one-and-a-half years. A total of 2,026 cases are pending for disposal due to various reasons.

The progress made in solving revenue related cases in the district is 87%, exceeding the target set by the State Revenue Department, marking the swift disposal of cases.

A total of 2,026 cases had been received at the District Magistrate's Court from Aug. 1, 2023 to Mar. 10, 2025 and 1,463 cases among them were disposed.

Of late, there is a significant rise in civil disputes than the criminal cases. Most of the civil disputes are related to property division, khata changes, land survey among several other issues, with the farmers and the general public moving various Courts, seeking justice.

The delay in redressing the grievances related to lands and other issues, was attributed to the officers of Revenue Department, who were busy in discharging their duties. Several leaders had brought this to the notice of the Government, following which the Revenue Department had directed the respective District Administration, to focus on expediting the disposal of the cases.

Taluk wise, following number of cases have been disposed: Mysuru Taluk Tahsildar Court - Total No. of cases received - 2,678, No. of cases disposed - 2,559, pending cases - 119; T. Narasipur Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 1,560, No. of cases disposed- 1,483, pending cases- 77; Sargur Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 145, No. of cases disposed - 129, pending cases - 16; Saligrama Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 524, No. of cases disposed - 495, pending cases - 29; Periyapatna Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received- 545, No. of cases disposed - 498, pending cases - 47; Nanjangud Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received- 1,281, No. of cases disposed - 1,189, pending cases - 92; K.R. Nagar Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 218, No. of cases disposed - 208, pending cases - 10; Hunsur Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 904, No. of cases disposed - 868, pending cases - 36; H.D. Kote Tahsildar Court - No. of cases received - 461, No. of cases disposed - 413, pending cases- 48.

Mysuru Special AC Court - No. of cases received - 503, No. of cases disposed - 325, pending cases - 178; Hunsur Special AC Court - No. of cases received - 201, No. of cases disposed - 81, pending cases - 120.

Mysuru AC Court - No. of cases received - 3,014, No. of cases disposed - 2,769, pending cases- 245; Hunsur AC Court - No. of cases received - 1,692, No. of cases disposed - 1,428, pending cases - 264. Mysuru DC Special Court - No. of cases received - 248, No. of cases disposed - 201, pending cases- 47.

The Courts in the district hearing revenue related cases is disposing off most of the cases, after taking a serious view of the complaints received. This has benefited majority of the farmers.
—G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Mysuru DC

The grave errors committed by the Computer Operator in the matters related to change in khata and other issues, are being rectified, when the issues are raised at the Tahsildar's Court. In the next level, the aggrieved parties appeal to the AC's Court, which functions in a rather sluggish pace. The prolonged delay is caused, when the matter reaches DC's Court. If the cases are filed at the Civil Courts, the plaintiffs have to wait for years for the Court to take up the matter for trial. The system should change.
—Attahalli Devaraj, farmer leader

Seven unidentified persons die in city

100 such cases registered in 2024

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (SPN&KS)- In the past three months, 10 homeless persons have died in Devaraja Police limits out of which a majority of them were found lying sick on the roadsides in the surroundings of K.R. Hospital and admitted to the Hospital, where they succumbed to illness. Out of the 10 persons, seven are unidentified people.

A 50-year-old unidentified man, who was found lying sick near Jayadeva Building in K.R. Hospital premises and admitted to K.R. Hospital, has died on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 25, a 70-year-old unidentified man died near the Stone Building. On Jan. 18, another unidentified man died near the Casualty Ward. A 40-year-old unidentified man, who was found lying sick behind Ganesha Mandira on Feb. 5 and admitted to K.R. Hospital, has died on Feb. 16.

On Feb. 9, a 35-year-old person, who was lying sick near Akki Chowk, has died.

On March 11, 2024, a 35-year-old unidentified man was found dead near Sharada Jewellers, adjacent to Devaraj Urs Road. On Aug. 28, 2024, a 50-year-old man, who was found lying sick near the Casualty Ward at K.R. Hospital and admitted to the Hospital, has died.

100 cases registered in 2024

From January 2024 till December 2024, 100 death cases of unidentified persons have been registered at Devaraja Police Station. K.R. Hospital premises, New Sayyaji Rao Road, Dewan's Road and other roads and places have become the shelter for the homeless people and the MCC officials have failed to identify them and provide permanent shelter.

The kith and kin of the deceased persons, if any, may contact Devaraja Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418306 or Mob: 94808-02231 or 94807-09284, according to a press release.

Elderly man killed in road accident

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (SBD&KS)- An elderly man, who had sustained serious injuries when a truck hit him while he was crossing the road Tuesday morning, succumbed to injuries at K.R. Hospital Tuesday evening.

Venkatashetty

The accident took place at about 8.45 am on Tuesday in Varuna Police limits and the deceased has been identified as Venkatashetty (90), a resident of Harohalli village in the taluk.

Venkatashetty was crossing the road in front of his house when a truck (KA-25-AA-5238), which was proceeding from Mysuru to Malavalli side hit him resulting in Venkatashetty sustaining serious injuries.

The injured elderly man was rushed to a private hospital in city, where he was provided treatment and was later shifted to K.R. Hospital, where he succumbed to injuries the same day evening .

Varuna Police, who have registered a case, are investigating.

Gold, cash stolen from house at Prashantha Chaya Layout

Mysuru, Mar. 20 (SBD&KS)- Burglars, who broke into a house at Prashantha Chaya Layout in Jantagalli, Varuna hobli, have decamped with cash and gold ornaments from the house. The burglary took place at the house of H. Chethan between Saturday night and Sunday evening.

Chethan, an employee of JK Tyre and his wife, an employee of a private hospital, locked their house on Saturday evening and left for their native place Kollegal. When they returned on Sunday night, they found the lock of the front door broken and the door open. On inspecting the house, they found the clothes scattered in the room. When they opened the wardrobe and the almirah, they found gold ornaments weighing 20 grams and Rs. 35,000 cash kept in it, stolen.

Based on the complaint from Chethan, Varuna Police, who have registered a case, collected footages of CCTV cameras installed in the vicinity and have launched a hunt to nab the burglars.

WORD OF THE DAY

Juggernaut

Pronunciation: JUG-er-nawt (Noun)
Meaning: A juggernaut is something (such as a force, campaign, or movement) that is extremely large and powerful and cannot be stopped.
Origin: In the early 14th century, Franciscan missionary Friar Odoric brought to Europe the story of an enormous carriage that carried an image of the Hindu god Vishnu (whose title was Jagannāth, literally, "lord of the world") through the streets of India in religious processions. Odoric reported that some worshippers deliberately allowed themselves to be crushed beneath the vehicle's wheels as a sacrifice to Vishnu. That story was likely an exaggeration or misinterpretation of actual events, but it spread throughout Europe. The tale caught the imagination of English listeners, and they began using juggernaut to refer to any massive vehicle (such as a steam locomotive) and to any other enormous entity with powerful crushing capabilities. While the word is still used sometimes in British English to refer to a very large, heavy truck (also called a "juggernaut lorry"), juggernaut is more commonly used figuratively for a relentless force, entity, campaign, or movement, as in "a political/economic/cultural juggernaut."
Example: "[Judd] Apatow talked about the box office success of 'Wicked,' the Universal musical that became a juggernaut over holiday season and has been an awards darling ..." — Cynthia Littleton, Variety, 8 Feb. 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Trypanophobia

Fear of needles/injections.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Play Hooky

Meaning: The phrase 'Play Hooky' means to skip school, work or any other obligation without a justified excuse.
Origin: The origin of the term "hooky" is in the 14th century Dutch game 'hoekje', or as it's known in American culture – 'hide and go seek'. However, the first recorded use of the phrase "playing hooky" was in 1842 in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle: "When I was a child, I thought as a child.... hunted birds' nests, played hooky, and chased butterflies... ". The analogy behind the story is playing games while skipping school.
Example: "My friends are playing hooky today so that they can be first in line to buy tickets for the concert tonight."

QUOTE BOX

It's hard to be humble, when you're as great as I am. **—Muhammad Ali**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

GRASS GRASS

Answer: The grass is greener on the other side.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

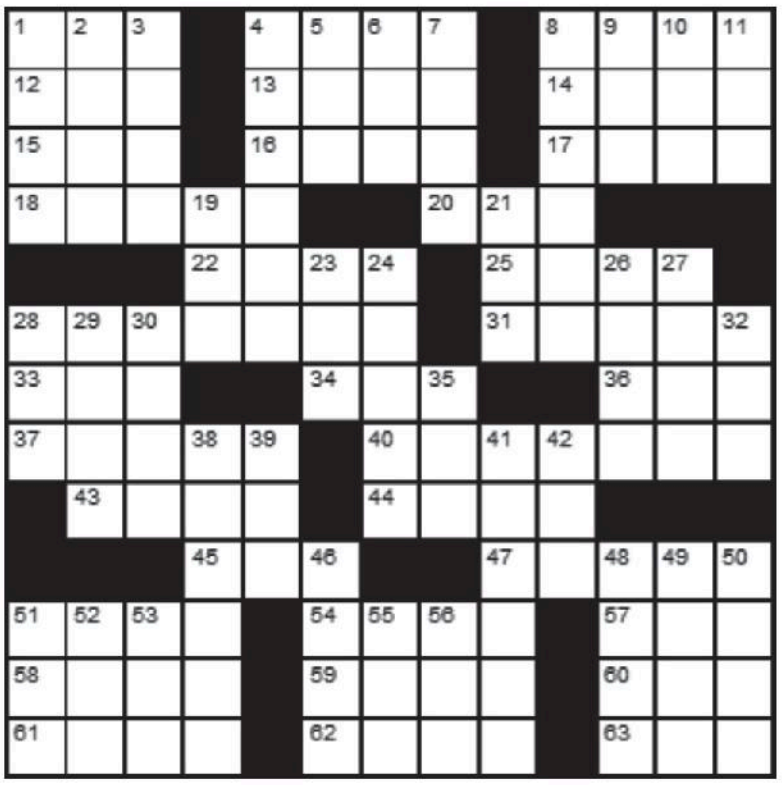
1 Monogram of the comment's speaker
4 Persian fairy
8 Riga resident
12 Angle-of-attack, abbr.
13 Mila 18 author Leon ___
14 Chooses or selects
15 Badger
16 Neither walk nor run
17 Approximately (2,2)
18 At ___ roots : at fundamental level?
20 Loutish dolt
22 Tributary of Ganges
25 Capital of Azerbaijan
28 Landmasses surrounded by water
31 The ____ : Home to the Hobbits in Lord of the Rings
33 Air Pollution Index
34 Ultimo, in short
36 Freudian term
37 A French wine
40 Reaches a destination
43 Andean shrub
44 Bearing
45 Closest Point of Approach
47 Drums informally
51 __ Balsam: soothing ointment?
54 Prohibition
57 Malayan boss or Japanese currency
58 Hardened rain
59 Piece of news
60 In favour of
61 Coup d'- ___ : change of Govt.
62 Betting machine
63 Teenage lout

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

L	T	D		T	E	N	T			F	A	D
E	A	U		W	R	I	S	T		L	S	I
A	P	T		I	G	L	O	O		Y	S	L
		I	A	G	O			P	I	N	E	
G	I	F	T			A	R	D	E	N	T	
B	L	U	R		P	R	I	O	R			
S	A	L		R	U	I	N	G		R	F	I
			T	I	L	A	K		B	O	E	R
	A	L	I	B	I	S			O	O	Z	E
	S	L	O	B			K	E	Y	S		
S	P	A		O	A	S	I	S		T	E	L
A	I	M		N	O	T	E	S		E	R	G
O	C	A			L	Y	R	E		R	A	E

DOWN

1 Criminal group
2 A wild pig
3 A legend or an epic
4 Dons or wears (4,2)
5 Incorrect action
6 SA river ___ Grande
7 Analogy words (2,2)
8 Bath sponge
9 Eng. Press. Ratio
10 Time To Station, abbr.
11 Tech. Std. Order
19 Jamaican popular music
21 Stomach muscles
23 Satellite Data Unit
24 The Muslim faith
26 Capital of Ukraine
27 Incite
28 __ ___ The Walrus: The Beatles hit (1,2)
29 Plan detail
30 An outdoor bathing pool
32 Greek goddess of dawn
35 Numerical prefix
38 Mystical
39 Headgear
41 Take up again
42 Marking fluid
46 Working (2,2)
48 Children's 'spotting' game (1,3)
49 Fiddling emperor
50 Snooty one
51 Definite article
52 Cereal grass
53 "Ali" turning into a girl?
55 From _ __ z : all (1,2)
56 Take a ___ : gamble?



SUDOKU

	7				5		8	
	5	3						
		9	4					2
		6	5		7	2		8
4		7	1		9	6		
7					1	4		
						8	2	
	1		6				3	

Answer to previous puzzle

5	2	4	8	6	3	1	7	9
7	9	8	2	4	1	3	6	5
1	3	6	5	9	7	2	4	8
8	4	5	9	1	2	6	3	7
2	7	9	6	3	5	4	8	1
6	1	3	4	7	8	9	5	2
9	5	2	3	8	4	7	1	6
4	8	1	7	2	6	5	9	3
3	6	7	1	5	9	8	2	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

LQIXCHVSDFQI PQMER ZC XSVDEU FOAHQXCR ZU DJC

LQIVDSID MVC QY YQMH VFOAEC PQHRV: F RQ IQD TIQP.

TODAY'S CLUE: D EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane and going the wrong way.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Gayathri Theatre **Ph: 2443568**
Appu (K) - 4 Shows

Mahadeshwara Theatre **Mob: 99008-20093**
Sankranthiki Vasthunam (Te) - 4 Shows

Woodlands Theatre **Ph: 2422871**
Bheema (K) - 4 Shows

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Gagana Kusuma (K) - 2 Shows; *Robber (Ta)* - 2 Shows

Thibbadevi Theatre **Ph: 2452958**
Duster (Ta) - 4 Shows

Prabha Theatre **Mob: 98454-14691**
Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows

Sangam Theatre **Ph: 2520494**
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te) - 4 Shows

Lido Theatre **Ph: 2420885**
Daaku Maharaaj (Te) - 4 Shows

Rajkamal Theatre **Ph: 2423554**
Sweetheart (Ta) - 4 Shows

Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
Badass Ravikumar (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

The Diplomat (H)	(S-1)	12.50 pm, 7 pm
	(S-3)	10.15 pm
Interstellar (E)	(S-1)	3.40 pm, 9.50 pm
Asthram (Ta)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
Dragon (Ta)	(S-2)	10 am
	(S-3)	12.50 pm, 4 pm
Chhaava (H)	(S-3)	7.10 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	(S-2)	4.10 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.15 pm
Appu (K)	(S-4)	10.40 am, 1.30 pm, 4.15 pm
		7 pm, 9.45 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Appu (K)	:	1.15 pm
		4.15 pm
		7.15 pm
Forest (K)	:	1.30 pm
		4.30 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	6 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	9.15 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Ph: 0821-230 0402

The Diplomat (H)	:	9.55 am, 1.10 pm, 3.50 pm, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Appu (K)	:	10.10 am, 12.50 pm, 4.05 pm, 6.45 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	10.10 am, 6.55 pm
Ghulam (H)	:	3 pm
Novocaine (E)	:	11 am, 4.40 pm
Interstellar (E)	:	11.05 am, 5.50 pm, 9.15 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	1.15 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	1.20 pm, 7 pm
Dune: Part Two (E)	:	2.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	3.50 pm
Sarfarosh (H)	:	7 pm
Inn Galiyon Mein (H)	:	9.45 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	10 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	10.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

Appu (K)	:	9.30 am, 12.30 pm, 3.30 pm
		6.30 pm, 9.30 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	10.05 am, 1.20 pm
Murmur (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.50 am, 1.45 pm, 4.40 pm
		7.35 pm, 10.30 pm
Murmur (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
Forest (K)	:	4.05 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	4.25 pm, 7.05 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	7.35 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	10.15 pm

MYCAS students shine
at Vidwath 2K25 and Jo-Fest 2025

Mysuru, Mar. 20 - The students of MYCAS College, Mysuru, have secured top positions in multiple categories at prestigious Vidwath 2K25, a State-level Inter-Collegiate Biztech Extravaganza, organised by Vidyavardhaka First Grade College, Mysuru, recently.

Niharika V. Pandit and G.D. Charitha clinched first place in the PACCAYA (Marketing) event. S. Eshaan and Manisha Hebbar and Kushal R. Hemdev and Fathima Ali Syed, emerged victorious by securing first place in the VIPANIYOJANA (Business Plan) and AYU CA VIBHAGA (Finance and Taxation) events respectively. The students collectively secured second place in the SITIBHAVKILA (Chill Pill) event.

Adding to their remarkable achievements, the students were also honoured with the Overall Championship Award, a recognition of their outstanding performance across multiple categories at Vidwath 2K25.

Additionally, MYCAS students showcased their enthusiasm and talent at JO-Conclave 2025, a Fest organised by St. Joseph's First Grade College.

Aliyah, Adithi Ramesh, Ayesha Ifrah, Aashiq Aneen, Athif Sinen Senel, Mohamed Fardan, Raif Khattal and Saniya Farheen, secured first place in the Presonaggio - Be a character (Ramp Walk) event, demonstrating creativity, confidence and teamwork, according to MYCAS Principal G. Ramacharan.

Winners of Vidwath-2K25 and Jo-Fest seen with Faculty Coordinator Pushpa and Principal G. Ramacharan.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 20)

- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Gandhi Shilp Bazaar - Handloom and Handicrafts Exhibition, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Hebbal, **up to 9 pm.**
- **Sahara Arts & Crafts:** Shopping Festival, Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind Old DC office, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Adhivaktha Parishad, Karnataka South, Mysore Unit and Negilayogi Samaja Seva Trust:** International Women's Day, felicitation to women achievers, Adhivaktha Parishad Mysuru Unit President V. Sharada presides, Lecture by retd. Senior Officer in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (GoI) Meena, retd. Principal District and Sessions Judge S.H. Pushpanjalidevi chief guest, Negilayogi Seva Bhavan, opp. New Law Courts Complex, Jayanagar, **4 pm.**
- **Prakrutim Rakshamah, city-based people's movement:** World Sparrow Day, Royal Mart premises, Male Mahadeshwara Road, Nazarbad, **7 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 21)

- **MMK&SDM Mahila Mahavidyalaya and Centre for PG Studies:** Inauguration of 'Prabhigyan' a two-day inter-collegiate science, commerce, management and cultural fest 2025, by journalist Rashmi Koti, writer Kusuma Ayarahalli special guest, MMK&SDM Girls PU College Principal Prof. Nayanakumari, Student Welfare Officer Jyothilakshmi G. Kava and Literary Co-ordinator Ujwala Shetty guests of honour, Principal N. Bharathi presides, College campus, Krishnamurthypuram, **9.30 am.**
- **JSS Law College (JJSLC), Kuvempunagar:** Symposium on 'Competition Law in India: Trends and Future Insights,' Dr. K.D. Singh, Director, Competition Commission of India, New Delhi, resource person, Prof. K.S. Suresh, Chief Executive, JJSLC, chief patron, Dr. N. Vani Shree, Principal, JJSLC, patron, Silver Jubilee Hall, **3 pm.**
- **Government First Grade College for Women, Vijayanagar (GFGCW), Mysuru, IQAC and Karnataka State Archives, Divisional Archives Office, Mysuru:** Valedictory of 2-day Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on 'Empowering Women in Princely Mysore: Historical Insights, Social Change and Future Prospects,' Prof. Hirisawe Srinivas Rao Prabhakar, retd. Professor of History, JNU, New Delhi, chief guest, G.R. Nataraja, Principal, GFGCW, Mysuru, presides, K.C. Bhadragiriyaiah, IQAC Coordinator, GFGCW, Mysuru, will be present, College Auditorium, **3.45 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Bharatanatyam by Vidu. Suma Rajesh and her disciples, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

Sweetheart (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	9.55 am, 4.10 pm, 7 pm, 10.30 pm
Appu (K)	:	10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7.30 pm, 10.20 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.15 am, 1.15 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.05 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	1.35 pm
Mickey 17 (E)	:	4.10 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	1 pm, 6.55 pm, 10 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	10 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Chhaava (H)	:	9.55 am, 7.10 pm, 10.30 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.05 am, 1 pm, 4.15 pm, 6.55 pm
Appu (K)	:	10.35 am, 1.15 pm, 3.55 pm
		7.10 pm, 9.50 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	10.50 am, 4.35 pm
Ah! (K)	:	1.25 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	1.35 pm, 10.10 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	4.10 pm, 10.20 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	7.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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